

**COLORADO RIVER RECOVERY PROGRAM  
FY 2003 ANNUAL REPORT**

**PROJECT NUMBER: PIP 12J**

**I. Project Title:** Interactive Map of the Colorado River Basin

**II. Principal Investigator:**

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**III. Project Summary:** The Recovery Program needs an interpretive map of the Colorado River Basin to provide target audiences with an Internet-based geographic context to the program and to graphically demonstrate to the various audiences specifically where and how recovery efforts affect water features and uses. A user-directed, interactive web-based map of the Colorado River Basin will enable the Recovery Program to provide customized information appropriate to specific audience needs. The maps will be available in both electronic and print formats and will be used at public meetings, on the Recovery Program web site, in Recovery Program publications, and to provide to print and broadcast news media. In addition, researchers would have access to the map to highlight specific projects they are involved with.

Recognizing a similar public education need for its own audiences, and that properly done such an interactive map could become a “draw” and increase the name recognition and visibility of its organization, the Public Affairs Committee of the Colorado River Water Users Association voted in 2001 to develop a web-based map of the Colorado River Basin. The Recovery Program has the opportunity to partner with this organization to cooperatively develop a base map that can subsequently be adapted by both organizations for various uses. This partnership would enable the Recovery Program to develop this map in a more cost-effective and timely manner than if it pursued such a project on its own.

Once the base map is completed, the Recovery Program would hire a contractor to customize the map for specific Recovery Program needs.

**IV. Study Schedule:**

Initial year: FY 2002  
Final year: Duration of Recovery Program.

**V. Relationship to RIPRAP:**

VI. INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND SUPPORT FOR THE ENDANGERED FISHES AND THE RECOVERY PROGRAM.

**VI. Accomplishment of FY 2003 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings:**

Tactic: Identify and prioritize the levels of customization needed for the various Recovery Program target audiences and purposes.

Status: The Information and Education Committee developed a list at its February 2003 meeting. Priority information would include: hatchery locations, historic distribution, currently occupied habitat, critical habitat, fish passage and screens (current and proposed), known spawning locations, and participating reservoirs. Second priority information would include: location of I&E sites (e.g. aquaria), population estimates, nonnative fish control areas, floodplain restoration sites (would link to site-specific management plans), and FWS endangered fish flow recommendations. Key water projects for which the Program provides Endangered Species Act compliance might also be considered (lower priority).

Tactic: Work with Colorado River Water Users Association to develop a GIS base map of the Colorado River Basin, its major tributaries and principle diversion structures and storage features.

Status: The Colorado River Water Users Association is cooperating with the Recovery Program to develop this map. The Southwest Data Center is under contract to develop the base maps and user interface and will host the site. Completion of a base map is anticipated by March 15, 2004.

Tactic: Hire contractor to customize the base map.

Status: The Recovery Program will pursue a contract with the Southwest Data Center to customize the map for Recovery Program use and to update it as needed in the future.

**VII. Recommendations: None**

**VIII. Project Status: Ongoing.**

**IX. FY 2003 Budget Status**

- A. Funds Provided: \$5,000
- B. Funds Expended: \$ -0-
- C. Difference: \$5,000 (carry forward to FY 2004)
- D. Percent of the FY 2003 work completed, and projected costs to complete: 50%.  
The Colorado River Water Conservation District has received \$20,000 to support this project -- \$3,000 to help build the base map and the remaining \$17,000 to customize the map for the Recovery Program's use.
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: Not applicable.

**X.** Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): n/a

**XI.** Signed:

<u>Debbie Felker</u>	<u>January 22, 2004</u>
Information & Education Coordinator	Date